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GAIN Report #FR1075

France

Dairy and Products

Annual

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Report Highlights:

The "mad cow" crisis and the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease hurt French exports of industrial dairy products in 2001. During the first seven months, shipments of skim milk powder were reduced by half, mainly due to the sharp drop in exports to Algeria and Cuba. At the same time, French exports of butter to Egypt and Saudi Arabia declined significantly, due to import restrictions imposed by these countries on French and EU products for sanitary reasons. As a result, the market for U.S. dairy products in these countries has expanded. In the French market, cheese production is increasing, boosted by growth in consumption.

Includes PSD changes: Yes Includes Trade Matrix: Yes Annual Report Paris [FR1], FR

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Executive Summary

The "mad cow" crisis and the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease hurt French exports of industrial dairy products in 2001. During the first seven months, shipments of skim milk powder were reduced by half, mainly due to the sharp drop in exports to Algeria and Cuba. At the same time, French exports of butter to Egypt and Saudi Arabia declined significantly, due to import restrictions imposed by these countries on French and EU products for sanitary reasons. As a result, the market for U.S. dairy products in these countries has expanded. In the French market, cheese production is increasing, boosted by growth in consumption.

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Section I: Situation and Outlook

France is the second largest EU milk producer and exporter within the EU and to third countries after Germany, and is therefore a major competitor with the United States. French dairy production is 30 percent industrial and 70 percent consumer-oriented products. French and U.S. industrial dairy products (mainly butter and milk powders) compete on the world market. Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Lebanon are France's major non-EU markets in the Middle-East, while Senegal and Algeria are France's leading export markets in Africa. In addition, France has made significant shipments to Singapore and Cuba.

The French dairy sector was hit hard by the "mad cow" crisis and the Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) outbreak in the first quarter of 2001. These sanitary problems resulted mainly in reduced exports of butter and skim milk powder, since importing countries put restrictions on products processed in France and the EU. Singapore, and Saudi Arabia significantly reduced their imports of butter from France, while Algeria and Cuba sharply cut their imports of skim milk powder, and Egypt reduced imports of both products. The market for U.S. products in these countries is therefore expanding in 2001.

Notes: Statistical data and market trends of the French dairy market is available on the website of the French Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries: http://www.agriculture.gouv.fr, on the French dairy industry's website: http://www.maison-du-lait.fr and on the French dairy board's website: http://www.onilait.fr

Exchange rates used in this report are : 1 USD = 7.13 FF in 2000 and 1 USD = 7.30 FF in 2001

Acronyms used in this report are the following:

CIDIL: Interprofessional Center for Dairy Information and Documentation

CNIEL: French Information Center of Dairy Economics

ONILAIT: French Dairy Board

SCEES: Office of Statistics of the French MinAg

SECODIP: French consumer survey agency

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Section II: Statistical Tables

PS&D Tables

PSD Table						
Country	France					
Commodity	Dairy, Milk, Fluid				(1000 HEAD)(100	0 MT)
	Revised	2000	Preliminary	2001	Forecast	2002
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/2000		01/2001		01/2002
Cows In Milk	4424	4424	4412	4412	0	4405
Cows Milk Production	24843	24874	24890	24875	0	24875
Other Milk Production	750	750	720	755	0	755
TOTAL Production	25593	25624	25610	25630	0	25630
Intra EC Imports	671	672	620	670	0	670
Other Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Imports	671	672	620	670	0	670
TOTAL SUPPLY	26264	26296	26230	26300	0	26300
Intra EC Exports	703	701	720	725	0	720
Other Exports	51	52	50	55	0	50
TOTAL Exports	754	753	770	780	0	770
Fluid Use Dom. Consum.	4380	4313	4380	4320	0	4320
Factory Use Consum.	20508	20608	20500	20620	0	20610
Feed Use Dom. Consum.	622	622	580	580	0	600
TOTAL Dom. Consumption	25510	25543	25460	25520	0	25530
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	26264	26296	26230	26300	0	26300
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr. Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

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PSD Table						
Country	France					
Commodity	Dairy, Cheese				(1000 MT)	
	Revised	2000	Preliminary	2001	Forecast	2002
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/2000		01/2001		01/2002
Beginning Stocks	72	72	72	72	72	62
Production	1719	1720	1725	1740	0	1740
Intra EC Imports	194	197	180	200	0	205
Other Imports	18	15	20	15	0	15
TOTAL Imports	212	212	200	215	0	220
TOTAL SUPPLY	2003	2004	1997	2027	72	2022
Intra EC Exports	415	415	420	425	0	425
Other Exports	97	97	100	100	0	100
TOTAL Exports	512	512	520	525	0	525
Human Dom. Consumption	1419	1420	1405	1440	0	1440
Other Use, Losses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dom. Consumption	1419	1420	1405	1440	0	1440
TOTAL Use	1931	1932	1925	1965	0	1965
Ending Stocks	72	72	72	62	0	57
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	2003	2004	1997	2027	0	2022
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr. Exp. to U.S.	13	13	13	14	0	14

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PSD Table						
Country	France					
Commodity	Dairy, Butter				(1000 MT)	
	Revised	2000	Preliminary	2001	Forecast	2002
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/2000		01/2001		01/2002
Beginning Stocks	27	27	25	25	23	28
Production	448	453	445	450	0	450
Intra EC Imports	140	145	129	140	0	140
Other Imports	10	1	9	1	0	1
TOTAL Imports	150	146	138	141	0	141
TOTAL SUPPLY	625	626	608	616	23	619
Intra EC Exports	47	43	45	40	0	45
Other Exports	30	28	30	23	0	25
TOTAL Exports	77	71	75	63	0	70
Domestic Consumption	523	530	510	525	0	525
TOTAL Use	600	601	585	588	0	595
Ending Stocks	25	25	23	28	0	24
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	625	626	608	616	0	619
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr. Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

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PSD Table						
Country	France					
Commodity	Dairy, Milk, Nonfat Dry		(1000 MT)			
	Revised	2000	Preliminary	2001	Forecast	2002
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/2000		01/2001		01/2002
Beginning Stocks	22	22	20	20	20	40
Production	278	278	260	260	0	260
Intra EC Imports	75	79	70	65	0	70
Other Imports	9	6	10	5	0	5
TOTAL Imports	84	85	80	70	0	75
TOTAL SUPPLY	384	385	360	350	20	375
Intra EC Exports	53	53	50	35	0	45
Other Exports	35	35	30	15	0	20
TOTAL Exports	88	88	80	50	0	65
Human Dom. Consumption	86	85	85	85	0	85
Other Use, Losses	190	192	175	175	0	180
Total Dom. Consumption	276	277	260	260	0	265
TOTAL Use	364	365	340	310	0	330
Ending Stocks	20	20	20	40	0	45
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	384	385	360	350	0	375
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr. Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

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PSD Table						
Country	France					
Commodity	Dairy, Dry Whole	Dairy, Dry Whole Milk Powder			(1000 MT)	
	Revised	2000	Preliminary	2001	Forecast	2002
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/2000		01/2001		01/2002
Beginning Stocks	22	22	23	23	28	35
Production	420	420	430	405	0	410
Intra EC Imports	8	8	10	15	0	10
Other Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Imports	8	8	10	15	0	10
TOTAL SUPPLY	450	450	463	443	28	455
Intra EC Exports	43	43	40	40	0	40
Other Exports	169	169	170	160	0	165
TOTAL Exports	212	212	210	200	0	205
Human Dom. Consumption	165	165	170	160	0	160
Other Use, Losses	50	50	55	48	0	50
Total Dom. Consumption	215	215	225	208	0	210
TOTAL Use	427	427	435	408	0	415
Ending Stocks	23	23	28	35	0	40
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	450	450	463	443	0	455
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr. Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

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Trade Matrices

Fluid Milk: Jan-December tables

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	France		
Commodity	Dairy, Milk, Fluid		
Time period	Jan-Dec	Units:	MT
Exports for:	1999		2000
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Italy	337778	Italy	301150
Spain	172333	Spain	159034
Belgium	154295	Belgium	125913
Germany	53196	Germany	61273
Greece	13301	Greece	28480
Switzerland	22577	Switzerland	24449
Portugal	12520	Portugal	10391
UK	15969	UK	9736
Total for Others	781969		720426
Others not Listed	37499		32445
Grand Total	819468		752871

Time period	Jan-Dec	Units:	MT
Imports for:	1999		2000
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Belgium	378162	Belgium	387909
Germany	163250	Germany	167559
Spain	67267	Spain	90278
Luxemburg	17059	Luxemburg	19608
Italy	13803	Italy	3677
Total for Others	620541		660021
Total for Others	639541		669031
Others not Listed	4544		2664
Grand Total	644085		671695

Source: Eurostat

Import Trade Matrix		
Country	France	
Commodity	Dairy, Milk, Fluid	

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Fluid Milk: Jan-July tables:

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	France		
Commodity	Dairy, Milk, Fluid		
Time period	Jan-July	Units:	MT
Exports for:	2000		2001
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Italy	188679	Italy	224472
Spain	90617	Spain	123207
Belgium	88792	Belgium	61091
Germany	45726	Germany	40415
Greece	18125	Portugal	22150
Switzerland	14529	Switzerland	13284
Portugal	6650	Greece	12438
Total for Others	453118		497057
Others not Listed	25240		25501
Grand Total	478358		522558

Source: Eurostat

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	France		
Commodity	Dairy, Milk, Fluid		
Time period	Jan-July	Units:	MT
Imports for:	2000		2001
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Belgium	193597	Belgium	210307
Germany	105550	Germany	73722
Spain	36047	Spain	54776
Luxemburg	8053	Luxemburg	4783
Italy	3353	Austria	1755
Total for Others	346600		345343
Others not Listed	1790		1951
Grand Total	348390		347294

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Cheese trade matrices: January-December:

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	France		
Commodity	Dairy, Cheese		
Time period	Jan-Dec	Units:	MT
Exports for:	1999		2000
U.S.	12140	U.S.	13434
Others		Others	
Germany	131694	Germany	133989
Belgium	64721	Belgium	66861
UK	58517	UK	60466
Italy	52158	Italy	55326
Spain	30873	Spain	36500
Netherlands	27576	Netherlands	33396
Saudi Arabia	15736	Saudi Arabia	16413
Switzerland	11310	Switzerland	10984
Total for Others	392585		413935
Others not Listed	83845		84779
Grand Total	488570		512148

Source: Eurostat

Time period	Jan-Dec	Units:	MT
Imports for:	1999		2000
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Germany	49477	Germany	66239
Netherlands	48033	Netherlands	51000
Italy	25962	Italy	26589
Belgium	13553	Belgium	16279
Switzerland	11096	Spain	10084
Spain	10467	Denmark	8924
Denmark	7731	UK	8472
UK	7179	Switzerland	7837
Total for Others	173498		195424
Others not Listed	15017		16733
Grand Total	188515		212157

Import Trade Matrix		
Country	France	
Commodity	Dairy, Cheese	

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Cheese trade matrices: January-July

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Export Trade Matrix			-
Country	France		
Commodity	Dairy, Cheese		
Time period	Jan-July	Units:	MT
Exports for:	2000		2001
U.S.	6630	U.S.	7246
Others		Others	
Germany	74988	Germany	71304
Belgium	37687	Belgium	39047
UK	34738	UK	38329
Italy	31471	Italy	33515
Spain	20313	Spain	25246
Netherlands	18650	Netherlands	18702
Saudi Arabia	10173	Saudi Arabia	9027
Switzerland	6140	Luxemburg	7503
Total for Others	234160		242673
Others not Listed	44691		50441
Grand Total	285481		300360

Source: Eurostat

Time period	Jan-July	Units:	MT
Imports for:	2000		2001
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Germany	35382	Germany	36388
Netherlands	28879	Netherlands	27900
Italy	15708	Italy	16290
Belgium	9468	Belgium	9708
Spain	5746	Spain	9391
Denmark	5113	Denmark	4604
UK	4721	UK	4347
Switzerland	4376	Switzerland	4331
Total for Others	106393		112959
Others not Listed	12684		8109
Grand Total	119077		121068

Import Trade Matrix		
Country	France	
Commodity	Dairy, Cheese	

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Butter trade matrices: January-December

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	France		
Commodity	Dairy, Butter		
Time period	Jan-Dec	Units:	MT
Exports for:	1999		2000
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Italy	17862	Italy	16490
Belgium	5877	Belgium	5922
Germany	5813	Germany	5377
UK	3988	UK	3788
Egypt	3796	Egypt	3292
Greece	2568	Spain	3017
Algeria	2522	Saudi Arabia	2668
Singapore	2367	Ireland	2433
Saudi Arabia	2292	Greece	2340
Spain	1476	Singapore	2299
Total for Others	48561		47626
Others not Listed	22030		23448
Grand Total	70591		71074

Source: Eurostat

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	France		
Commodity	Dairy, Butter		
Time period	Jan-Dec	Units:	MT
Imports for:	1999		2000
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Belgium	26268	Belgium	34563
Netherlands	31721	Netherlands	30479
Ireland	19285	Ireland	23479
UK	20781	UK	19318
Spain	5665	Spain	14539
Germany	7656	Germany	9753
Italy	6324	Italy	4985
Finland	3519	Finland	4092
Portugal	3870	Portugal	2878
Total for Others	125089		144086
Others not Listed	3392		2380
Grand Total	128481		146466

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Butter trade matrices: January-July

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	France		
Commodity	Dairy, Butter		
Time period	Jan-July	Units:	MT
Exports for:	2000		2001
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Italy	8103	Italy	7031
Belgium	3600	Belgium	4017
Germany	3017	Germany	2368
Egypt	2590	UK	2340
UK	2030	Spain	1734
Saudi Arabia	1543	Singapore	1645
Spain	1527	Denmark	1530
Ireland	1416	Egypt	1448
Singapore	1196	Greece	1106
Greece	1147	Saudi Arabia	1088
Total for Others	26169		24307
Others not Listed	12624		13477
Grand Total	38793		37784

Source: Eurostat

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	France		
Commodity	Dairy, Butter		
Time period	Jan-July	Units:	MT
Imports for:	2000		2001
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Belgium	18251	Belgium	16617
Netherlands	18917	Netherlands	15822
UK	14559	Spain	12508
Ireland	9735	Ireland	11559
Spain	9523	Germany	9616
Germany	4993	UK	7070
Italy	3189	Finland	2227
Finland	2119	Italy	1693
Portugal	1723	Portugal	1632
		Denmark	1199
Total for Others	83009		79943
Others not Listed	1279		1220
Grand Total	84288		81163

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Nonfat dry milk trade matrices: January-December

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	France		
Commodity	Dairy, Milk, Nonfat Dry		
Time period	Jan-Dec	Units:	MT
Exports for:	1999		2000
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Netherlands	13675	Netherlands	14178
Italy	13086	Italy	13107
Belgium	9784	Algeria	10071
Spain	6258	Belgium	9640
Algeria	5669	Cuba	9413
Cuba	4165	Spain	8472
Germany	3401	Germany	3282
Egypt	2891	Egypt	1849
Morocco	2006	Greece	1640
UK	1943	Singapore	1453
Total for Others	62878		73105
Others not Listed	20845		15319
Grand Total	83723		88424

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	France		
Commodity	Dairy, Milk, Nonfat Dry		
Time period	Jan-Dec	Units:	MT
Imports for:	1999		2000
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Belgium	22114	Netherlands	26357
Netherlands	16759	Belgium	13258
Germany	9714	Ireland	12747
UK	3253	Germany	11051
Ireland	2313	UK	9046
Czech Republic	2097	Sweden	3740
Sweden	1767	Czech Republic	2564
Poland	1650	Spain	1550
Italy	1061	Ukraine	902
Spain	629	Denmark	662
Total for Others	61357		81877
Others not Listed	2439		2837
Grand Total	63796		84714

Source: Eurostat

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Nonfat dry milk trade matrices: January-July

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	France		
Commodity	Dairy, Milk, Nonfat Dry		
Time period	Jan-Dec	Units:	MT
Exports for:	2000		2001
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Netherlands	10679	Italy	6639
Algeria	9570	Spain	4435
Italy	9220	Belgium	3619
Spain	5558	Netherlands	2468
Belgium	5206	Cuba	2267
Cuba	4446	Germany	1942
Germany	1739	Algeria	1434
Egypt	1713	UK	1297
Greece	1132	Portugal	1133
Singapore	1117	Egypt	1071
Total for Others	50380		26305
Others not Listed	9893		3624
Grand Total	60273		29929

Source: Eurostat

Import Trade Matrix	К		
Country	France		
Commodity	Dairy, Milk, Nonfat Dry		
Time period	Jan-July	Units:	MT
Imports for:	2000		2001
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Netherlands	12243	Netherlands	13270
Ireland	10149	Germany	8701
UK	7724	Belgium	8051
Belgium	7288	Ireland	1769
Germany	5670	Sweden	984
Sweden	3308		
Czech Republic	1460		
Total for Others	47842		32775
Others not Listed	2330		3931
Grand Total	50712		36706

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Dry Milk trade matrices: January-December:

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	France		
Commodity	Dairy, Dry Whole Milk Powder		
Time period	Jan-Dec	Units:	MT
Exports for:	1999		2000
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Algeria	72052	Algeria	70140
Iraq	20653	Iraq	20454
Netherlands	13901	Netherlands	13993
Cuba	12385	Belgium	12983
Belgium	11415	Saudi Arabia	11468
Saudi Arabia	10250	Cuba	11359
Germany	8986	Senegal	10486
Senegal	8238	Lebanon	5680
Mali	6310	Germany	5353
Lebanon	5035	Italy	5173
Total for Others	169225		167089
Others not Listed	46984		44755
Grand Total	216209		211844

Grand Total Source: Eurostat

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	France		
Commodity	Dairy, Dry Whole Milk Powder		
Time period	Jan-Dec	Units:	MT
Imports for:	1999		2000
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Netherlands	4470	Belgium	2085
Germany	3169	Portugal	2017
Belgium	2951	Netherlands	1179
Ireland	2122	Germany	1158
Portugal	1826	UK	545
UK	603	Ireland	513
Total for Others	15141		7497
Others not Listed	787		593
Grand Total	15928		8090

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Dry Milk trade matrices: January-July:

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	France		
Commodity	Dairy, Dry Whole Milk Powder		
Time period	Jan-July	Units:	MT
Exports for:	2000		2001
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Algeria	72052	Algeria	70140
Iraq	20653	Iraq	20454
Netherlands	13901	Netherlands	13993
Cuba	12385	Belgium	12983
Belgium	11415	Saudi Arabia	11468
Saudi Arabia	10250	Cuba	11359
Germany	8986	Senegal	10486
Senegal	8238	Lebanon	5680
Mali	6310	Germany	5353
Lebanon	5035	Italy	5173
Total for Others	169205		167089
Others not Listed	14004		44755
Grand Total	216209		211844

Source: Eurostat

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	France		
Commodity	Dairy, Dry Whole Milk Powder		
Time period	Jan-July	Units:	MT
Imports for:	2000		2001
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Portugal	1298	Belgium	2488
Belgium	830	Germany	1618
Netherlands	822	Portugal	1560
Germany	609	UK	636
Total for Others	3559		6302
Others not Listed	1041		1172
Grand Total	4600		7474

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Section III: Supply, Demand, Policy and Marketing

Production

Fluid Milk

French milk production is very stable, due to the European system of production quotas. During the 2000/2001 milk production year (April/March), French milk production was 23.6 million MT (with the butterfat correction factor), but below its quota of 23.8 million MT. During the first four months of the 2001/2002 milk production year, French milk production was 0.6 percent below the same period in 2000/2001 (with the butterfat content correction factor).

In 2000/2001, the butterfat content was 42 grams per liter and the protein content was 32.8 grams per liter, on average. In the first three months of 2001/2002, the average butterfat content and protein content were 41 grams per liter and 32.6 grams per liter, respectively.

Cheese

French cheese production increased by 3 percent in the first seven months of 2001 compared to the same period in 2000, mainly due to increased domestic demand: while beef consumption declined as a result of the BSE crisis, the French partially replaced beef with cheese in their diet.

(Metric Tons)		Jan-Dec 2000	Jan-July 2000	Jan- July 2001
Cheeses made from cow milk	Fresh Cheeses	569,144	334,127	353,135
	Soft Cheeses	456,363	256,504	257,099
	Cooked Pressed Cheeses	321,491	191,662	201,088
	Uncooked Pressed Cheeses	222,936	120,437	129,999
	Blue Cheeses	38,267	21,666	21,676
	Total	1,608,200	924,396	962,977
Cheeses made from Sheep Milk		51,372	57,642	48,987
Cheeses made from Goat Milk		59,930	34,354	36,474
TOTAL CHEESES		1,719,500	1,016,390	1,048,460

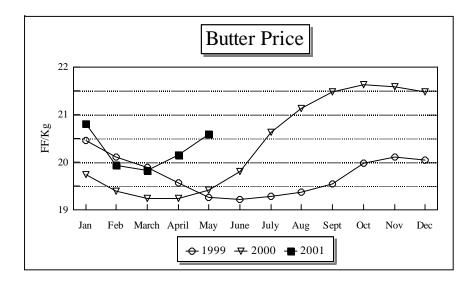
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Butter

According to SCEES, French butter production declined slightly from the first seven months in 2000 to the first seven months in 2001, and included the following (in MT):

(Metric Tons)	Jan-Dec 2000	Jan-July 2000	Jan-July 2001
Butter	371,803	238,225	234,293
Butter Oil (made from cream)	74,995	45,423	44,047
Light Butter	5,897	2,173	3,279
TOTAL BUTTER	452,695	285,821	281,619

In the first half of 2001, butter prices recovered from the abnormally low levels of 2000, which were a result of the economic crisis in Russia. Russia used to be France's leading non-EU export market for butter until 1998. France partially replaced butter shipments to Russia with exports to other non-EU countries.



Milk Powders

French production of nonfat dry milk (skim milk powder-SMP) declined by 17 percent from the first seven months in 2000 to the same period in 2001. This resulted mainly form the increase in cheese and casein production. Domestic consumption of SMP declined in 2001, due to the reduced use of SMP in calf feed, since French consumption of veal is depressed by the BSE crisis and the FMD outbreak.

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(Metric Tons)	Jan-Dec 2000	Jan-July 2000	Jan-July 2001
Nonfat Dry Milk	278,021	195,619	162,170
Dry Whole Milk Powder	419,551	265,911	247,871

Consumption

Fluid Milk

According to the consumer survey agency SECODIP and the dairy information center CIDIL, fluid milk ranks third in the various dairy market segments in France, after cheese and fresh (short self-life) products. Fluid milk purchases represented 15 percent of household dairy products purchases. Most fluid milk products are sold at supermarkets (78 percent in 2000).

Cheese

Total French cheese consumption amounted to 1.42 million MT in 2000 (43 percent of French household consumption and 57 percent hotels, restaurants and institutions - HRI - consumption). Cheese is the leading dairy market segment in France, accounting for 43 percent of French household dairy purchases and 7.4 percent of French households' food budget.

French household purchases of cheese was FF 30.4 billion in 2000 (USD 4.3 billion). Most sales were self-service (82 percent), while over-the-counter sales were minor (18 percent).

Per capita cheese consumption was 24.1 kg in 2000. Over the past few years, total French cheese consumption has grown mainly due to the increase in fresh cheese consumption, while the other market segments remained relatively stable.

Butter

French household purchases of butter were FF 5.4 billion (USD 757 million) in 2000, almost 8 percent of the French household dairy budget and 3.4 percent of the total French household food budget.

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Trade

France and the United States are competitors in the world dairy markets, except for cheese, where the United States is a market for French products. French and U.S. products compete for the same markets outside of the EU for industrial dairy products such as butter and milk powders.

France's leading non-EU export markets for butter are Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Singapore, which totaled 11.6 percent of total French exports of butter in 2000. The share of French exports of butter to these countries declined from 13.8 percent in the first seven months in 2000 to 11 percent in the same period in 2001. This was mainly due to increased prices for butter and food safety problems in France with Foot and Mouth Disease.

French exports of nonfat dry milk (NFDM) to Algeria, Cuba, Egypt and Singapore accounted for 26 percent of total French NFDM exports in 2000. However, French exports of NFDM were cut by half during the first seven months in 2001, due mainly to the sharp decline in shipments to these same countries, and especially Algeria. This was mainly due to export restrictions on European products for sanitary reasons. French exports of whole milk powder declined slightly in the first seven months in 2001. Algeria and Iraq, with 33 percent and 10 percent of French exports, remained France's leading export markets.

Stocks

In December 2000, French stocks of dairy products included the following (in MT):

Cheese	Private Stocks Under Contract	7,734
	Private Stocks in Factories	64,760
	Total Cheese Stocks	72,494
Butter	Public Stocks	285
	Private Stocks Under Contract	6,645
	Private Stocks of Butter and Butter-Oil in Factories	19,951
	Total Butter Stocks	26,881
Nonfat Dry Milk	Public Stocks	0
	Private Stocks of Pure Nonfat Dry Milk in Factories	17,453
	Private Stocks of Fattened Nonfat Dry Milk in Factories	2,578
	Total Nonfat Dry Milk Stocks	20,031
Whole Milk Powder	Bulk Whole Milk Powder, 1.5% - 25.9% Fat Content	1,171

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Bulk Whole Milk Powder, 26% Fat Content and Above	13,523
Packaged Whole Milk Powder	7,831
Total Stocks of Whole Milk Powder	22,525

Sources: ONILAIT, SCEES